



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, September 20, 2007

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 3:00 p.m., at the Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Rm. 328-A, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley
Mohamed Okdie **(ABS)**
Willie Hampton
Arthur Blackwell II **(ABS)**

Department Personnel Present

AC Ralph Godbee
AC Robert Dunlap
Cmdr. Benjamin Lee
Cmdr. James Tolbert
Lt. Kevin Kemp
Lt. Charles Wilson
Lt. Robbin Kirkwood-Farrar
Lt. John Morrel
Lt. Steven Walton
Sgt. Eddie Croxton
Sgt. Rodney Cox
PO Viera Browning
PO Sophia Nelms

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Investigator
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator **(ABS)**
Ainsley Cromwell, Supervising Investigator
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator
PO Kent Cooper

OTHERS

Ron Scott
Edward Moore

RECORDERS

Terence Bell
Robert Brown

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ramirez called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:23 p.m.

Chairperson Ramirez acknowledged the presence of staff.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Thursday, September 20, 2007

MOTION: **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

SECOND: **Comm. Hampton** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Thursday, September 13, 2007

MOTION: **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Hampton** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

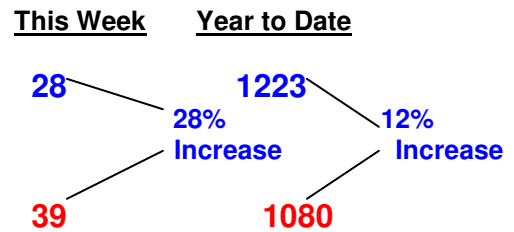
4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

1. CHAIRPERSON

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

2007 - Weekly Count of Complaints:



2006 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,113** active investigations, of which **799** of those are for 2007.

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS							Total
CCR	W/E 9/20/07	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Procedure	Property	Service	Allegations
2	CENTRAL	1	1			2		1	5
1	COMM/OPS							1	1
5	EASTERN	1	3			2		1	7
1	GAMING		1		1				2
4	NORTHEASTERN		2			2			4
1	NORTHWESTERN					1		1	2
2	ORGANIZED CRIME		1	1	1	1			4
1	SOUTHWESTERN					1			1
1	SRTU		1			1			2
6	Unknown		3		1	2	1	1	8
4	WESTERN		3			4		1	8
28		2	15	1	3	16	1	6	44

Previous Month Concern

Letters are being generated for the Department of Justice (DOJ) Monitor to appear in front of the Board, and to the 36th District and 3rd Circuit Courts to address the penalty for copper theft.

Comm. Holley asked what is the above chart and data used for.

Exec Dir. Goss stated these are the actual complaints that the Office of the chief Investigator (OCI) investigates, and that information is given to the Chief's office.

Comm. Holley asked does it show us how we are doing compared to last year with the investigations.

Exec Dir. Goss stated no sir; complaints are hard to measure OCI's success.

Comm. Holley asked to know the purpose of the data.

Chairperson Ramirez stated OCI is working with the department by entering this information into the IMAS system. It would let them know how many complaints are alleged against the officers.

Comm. Holley stated the end results of this data are coming.

Chairperson Ramirez stated yes, and asked A. Cromwell to provide a status on where they are with the training.

A. Cromwell stated they will be meeting this Monday with the IMAS people to be trained on the system. That information is to update the public, and the department. One of the Charter Mandates is to notify the public.

Comm. Holley stated he wanted to know the meaning of the numbers since he hears them every week.

Chairperson Ramirez stated that's why she asks OCI to explain their purpose during community meeting so the public can have an understanding of the numbers.

5. REPORT/PRESENTATION-CHIEF OF POLICE

September 20, 2007

Volume 3, Issue 38

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS



"BUILDING A SAFER DETROIT THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS"

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement

During the period of September 10, 2007 through September 16, 2007, **Narcotics/Gang Enforcement executed 27 search warrants and 47 street enforcement actions** within the boundaries of the city of Detroit, resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

- 41 Felony arrests
- 87 Misdemeanor arrests
- 3 Juveniles detained
- 7,629.80 grams of cocaine, 79.2 grams of heroin, 2,080.10 grams of marijuana and 79 pills with a total street value:
- \$ 3,203,590.40
- \$ 181,574.00 in U.S. Currency
- Confiscated:
- 29 Handguns



Engaging the Community

EASTERN DISTRICT

On September 10th, subsequent to an investigation, officers of the Eastern District apprehended a subject wanted for Robbery Armed carjacking.



ATTENTION	Location	Hours of Operation	Telephone
Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the Districts in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Sub-Stations to make reports.	2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
	7737 Kercheval	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	852-4778
	13206 E. Jefferson	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	852-5759
	19810 Grand River	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	935-5322
	13530 Lesure	8 a.m.-8 p.m.	596-5300
	12000 Livernois	24 Hours	237-2555

Inside this issue:

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Central District	2
Northwestern District	2
Northeastern District	2

Special points of interest:

• **Next meeting:**
Thursday, September 27, 2007
@ 3:00 P.M.
Detroit Police Department
1300 Beaubien St. suite 328A
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Police / Community Intervention

SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



On September 12th, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 12000 block of Cloverlawn on a "Person With a Weapon/Shots Fired." Subsequent to the subject's arrest, a warrant submitted by Domestic Violence, charged the subject with (1) Felon in Possession, (2) Fleeing & Eluding 3rd Degree, (3) Carrying a Concealed Weapon/Motor Vehicle, (4) Felonious Assault, (5) Felony Firearms, (6) Domestic violence, (7) Habitual 3rd Degree, and (8) Motor Vehicle Advisory .

CENTRAL DISTRICT

On September 10th, officers of the Central District responded to the area of Trumbull and 12th on an "Armed Robbery". As a result of their investigation, a subject was arrested for (1) Robbery Armed, and (2) Felonious Assault.



NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT

On September 11th, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the 6000 block of Memorial to a "House Stripping" in progress. As a result of their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with (1) Fleeing & Eluding and (2) Possession of a Controlled Substance.



NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT

An off duty officer of the Northeastern District was in the 500 block of E. Grand Blvd., when she observed a door of a residence open. Subsequent to her investigation, a subject was apprehended and arrested by uniformed officers upon their arrival. The subject was charged with (1) Two-Counts of Home Invasion 2nd Degree, (2) Breaking & Entering a Building with Intent, and (3) Habitual 4th Degree.



Assistant Chief (AC) Godbee introduced Lt. Kemp of Homicide.

Lt. Kemp introduced the rest of the staff from Homicide and gave the presentation on Homicide with an overview of Investigation Processes, Training, the "Snitch" effect, and the challenges they face.

(SEE ATTACHMENT)

Comm. Holley asked Lt. Kemp to explain what information the prosecutor is looking for.

Lt. Kemp stated that the prosecutor wants all the information so they don't run into any problems before they sign the warrant(s).

AC Godbee stated the prosecutor had many cuts in their budget. They no longer have investigators to gather additional information. In the best interest of justice, they control the department resources when additional information is needed.

Comm. Holley asked does the department offer a reward to citizens who come forward with good information.

Lt. Kemp stated that is 1-800 Speak-UP.

Comm. Holley asked is that a department unit.

Lt. Kemp stated no, the department can't pay people, because it would appear as if they are getting paid for their testimony.

Comm. Holley asked is there a relationship with 1-800 Speak-UP.

Lt. Kemp stated yes.

Comm. Holley asked where does 1-800 Speakup money come from.

AC Godbee stated a lot of their money comes from the private sector, and fund raisers. The Chief was featured at the last fund raiser which raised about \$300,000.

Comm. Holley stated based upon the economy, if the money is right, a person will be willing to snitch.

AC Godbee stated the department also has generated a confidential informant list and funds are available for them through the department along with the DOJ informants.

Comm. Holley stated what is being discussed at your training sessions on Wednesdays.

Lt. Kemp stated ongoing homicide issues that need to be addressed, and general training.

Chairperson Ramirez asked what practices are being done in other states to improve the detective's skills.

Lt. Kemp stated they use the best practices and procedures that are available.

Chairperson Ramirez asked is this when you discuss your policies and procedures.

Lt. Kemp stated yes, ma'am.

Comm. Holley asked are there a shortage of officers who want to be detectives, and how are they being recruited.

Chairperson Ramirez asked is it done by seniority.

Lt. Kemp stated there are a significant number of transfer requests from officers to come to the homicide section.

Chairperson Ramirez asked is the transfers based on seniority.

Lt. Kemp stated not necessarily.

Comm. Holley asked is there a test they must take for homicide.

Lt. Kemp stated no, generally it is by seniority, and then a transfer request is done.

Chairperson Ramirez acknowledged the arrival of Comm. Hampton at 3:45 pm.

She asked what happens to an officer who is not making the grade, are they given a probation period.

Lt. Kemp stated if a person isn't working out, the supervisor of that unit will ask for them to transfer out.

AC Godbee stated in the last Act 312, homicide is one of the units that were giving testimonies to the arbitrator to have them exempted. They did not prevail in Act 312, so it is still a seniority unit. However, as with any unit, if appropriate documentation is being done with cause to remove that member, that person can be transferred out.

Comm. Holley stated once they are in homicide it may be hard to get them out.

Lt. Kemp stated once you document the paper work, the person will be ready to go.

Comm. Holley asked where you (Lt. Kemp) were before coming to homicide.

Lt. Kemp stated he was shift lieutenant at the Western District.

Comm. Holley asked the lieutenant was he recruited for the job.

Lt. Kemp stated yes, and he had worked in homicide from 1987 to 1994.

Comm. Holley stated when he first came to Detroit, the department had a reputation for solving crime. He asked does that reputation still exist.

Lt. Kemp stated he is continuing to work on improving that fact.

Chairperson Ramirez asked what are you doing in the community to over come "snitching".

Lt. Kemp stated to continue to go to community meetings, give out 1-800 Speak-UP cards, and hand out tip sheets for information.

Chairperson Ramirez asked how is the young population being reached.

Lt. Kemp stated in the future, there may be a program that can be developed to go into the schools to speak with that age group.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated himself, DC Lyons, and AC Dunlap met with the Ministers of the Police Academy and Police Chaplains. They want to involve the churches in the community to attack the snitch mentality. The majority of the time, those individuals will talk to their pastors or clergy of that church. They will also be trying to get those pastors to come to the crime scene as well as the community. This will help the department to improve their closure rate on cases. The national average of closing cases was about 55% last year, and last year the department was at 51%. It is working with new technology, and sending more officers to training.

Comm. Holley stated he works with high school dropouts. He has been working with all of the D-jays in the city to help get the message out to their kids. The coaches and D-jays have more influence with the kids than their parents. He stated if they would like to use the D-jays, he could assist them with that.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated that they will be calling on him.

Comm. Hampton stated there was a city that asked for 30,000 male volunteers to come together and reclaim their city.

AC Godbee stated Philadelphia.

Comm. Hampton asked is that working and is it possible to get the citizens here involved in something like that.

AC Godbee stated that model in Philadelphia was asking for 10,000 men. The Nation of Islam was interacting with people that the department is working with. They took that model to Philadelphia. The Mayor is working on a manpower summit that is going to call on a number of citizens. Along with the Mayor, Chief and the Assistant Chiefs, they call these people together to make sure they have something for them to do and how they will be deployed.

Comm. Holley asked what is Crisnet.

Lt. Kemp stated it is the reporting system that the department uses.

Comm. Holley asked how many people are in homicide.

Lt. Kemp stated about 45 people.

Comm. Holley asked is that the standard according to the city's population.

Lt. Kemp stated it doesn't matter how small or large the city is, homicide can always use more people.

AC Godbee stated giving the caseload and complexity of the crime, they do a great job. The entire department does more with less.

Chairperson asked is the survivor's guide similar to the homicide care package.

AC Godbee stated yes.

Chairperson Ramirez asked will it be given to the Board before being sent out to the public.

Lt. Kemp stated yes.

Chairperson Ramirez stated in case the Board wants to add something.

She asked if the detectives have voice mail.

Lt. Kemp stated that everyone has GroupWise or email.

Chairperson Ramirez asked if the victim's family wants to talk to a detective how would they reach them.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated voice mail is a good tool, but not for homicide detectives because they tend to get lost. If anyone calls they are transferred to a live person such a supervisor.

Comm. Holley stated if he calls at 3:00 am who will take the message.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated homicide is staffed 24 hours.

Chairperson Ramirez stated some of the complaints that come to OCI states that the citizens aren't receiving feedback on homicides.

Comm. Holley stated there is no follow-up with the family.

AC Godbee stated that AC Dunlap put in place a mechanism where the commanding officer is directly responsible for reaching out to the family's designated person.

Chairperson Ramirez stated the personal letter that was sent to the citizens about her stolen car was a great idea from the department.

AC Dunlap stated that was in the Northeastern District and it is done throughout the department in the investigation operations units. The department has a lieutenant assigned to every unit in homicide that is responsible for reaching out to the families. The majority of the time, the investigators are out on the street when the families are calling.

Comm. Holley asked does cold case falls under homicide, and can he get a 60 second overview.

Lt. Kemp stated that the detectives are using DNA to try to solve a lot of the cold cases.

Comm. Holley asked have any been closed lately.

Lt. Kemp stated yes.

Comm. Holley stated maybe that can be put in your report in the future so it can be shared with the community.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated that the department has just secured a cold case grant from the federal government to enhance the department cold case capabilities. They will be able to hire former homicide detectives to review the cold case files. The national average of closing a cold case is about 8 per year. The department closed 24 cold cases last year, and has closed 12 so far for this year.

Comm. Holley stated he struggles with all the good things that the department does, but there is no effort to get it out to the people via the media.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated he agrees, but most of the good things that the department does is put out there and it doesn't always end up in the media.

Chairperson Ramirez stated when you go outreaching, that's when you need to say the positive things that are going on in the department.

AC Godbee stated the department has aggressively engaged the media, publishers, editors, beat reporters in very proactive ways to build relationships. The department is providing the information; what they do with it is another question.

Chairperson Ramirez stated thanks for sharing that with this Board and we will get that out to the community.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated last night the Chief was on WJR radio and that will be a reoccurring program.

Comm. Holley stated that is good, but the community doesn't listen to WJR, they listen to WGPR, KISS, and FM 92.3. He doesn't know why the department isn't using the government channel or Comcast that much.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated they are working with Comcast to make sure that the information is accurate and is getting out to the public.

Comm. Holley stated the department needs that image more than before.

Comm. Hampton asked as it relates to homicide, is there an average on how much time it takes to solve a case.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated they usually know within the first twenty-four hours, but what they can prove is totally different. An investigation has to be done and it can't be closed until an individual is arrested and charged. That doesn't mean that the department doesn't know who did it, they just can't prove it.

Comm. Hampton asked does the prosecutor's office affect that as well.

Cmdr. Tolbert stated yes.

Chairperson Ramirez asked Lt. Kemp to speak on the challenges of homicide.

Lt. Kemp stated the department as a whole has to work more to build the community's trust.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no standing committee reports.

7. NEW BUSINESS

WHEREAS Ronald Shene was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on January 9, 1975. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Shene was assigned to the Tenth Precinct, where he served two tours of duty; and

WHEREAS Officer Shene was assigned to the Ninth Precinct on June 5, 1986, where he dutifully served for over seventeen (17) years. In January 2004, he transferred to the Central District Gaming Operations, where he remained until his retirement on March 30, 2007; and

WHEREAS Officer Shene was a credit to the Detroit Police Department, and received several distinguished honors during his tenure, including (1) Commendation, (1) Citation, (1) Departmental Citation, (1) Lifesaving Citation, (1) Award of Merit, and several letters of commendation from the late Mayor Coleman A. Young, the late Chief of Police William Hart and Chief of Police Stanley Knox, and citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of Officer Ronald Shene's 32 years of dedicated and loyal service. His professionalism, integrity and outstanding commitment to public service and the citizens of Detroit merit our highest regards and best wishes for continued success.

We salute and congratulate you, Police Officer Ronald J. Shene.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Erminia Ramirez
Chairperson

/s/ Mohamed Okdie
Commissioner

/s/ Jim Holley
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Willie Hampton Commissioner	ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 20, 2007	/s/ Arthur Blackwell, II Commissioner
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MOTION: **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: **Comm. Hampton** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

WHEREAS Commander Scott A. Kohls retired from the Detroit Police Department on May 15, 2007, after completing 25 years of dedicated service to the Department and to the citizens of Detroit; and

WHEREAS Scott A. Kohls was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on August 8, 1977. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Kohls began his career in law enforcement at the Fourteenth Precinct. He also served at the Sixteenth Precinct, the Eighth Precinct, and with the Special Response Team before transferring to the Second Precinct; and

WHEREAS Officer Kohls was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on May 12, 1989, and reassigned to the Special Response Team, where, as a team leader, his duties included hostage negotiator, distraction device instructor, rappel master instructor, and tactical instructor. He completed over 60 successful missions; and

- WHEREAS** Sergeant Kohls was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on October 3, 1995, and assigned to the Gang Enforcement Section. In 1996, Lieutenant Kohls was tapped to manage the Gang Specialist Unit under the aegis of the United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services; and
- WHEREAS** Lieutenant Kohls was appointed to the rank of Inspector on May 14, 1999, and assigned to Special Events, where he managed the vehicular and pedestrian traffic for all major events throughout the Downtown Business District. He also served as the Commanding Officer of the Organized Crime and Gang Division; and
- WHEREAS** Inspector Kohls was appointed to the rank of Commander on September 2, 2003, and assigned to the Metropolitan Division. Other assignments included Homeland Security, the Resource Management Division, the Western District, and the Southwestern District, where served until his retirement; and
- WHEREAS** Commander Kohls' leadership and law enforcement skills have been recognized and honored by various Departmental awards, including (3) Citations for Valor and Medals, (3) Lifesaving Citations and Medals, (1) Departmental Citation and Medal, (6) Chief's Merit Awards, (3) Chief's Unit Awards, the 1980 GOP Commemorative Award, several Perfect Attendance Awards, several commendations, and numerous letters of praise from citizens; and
- WHEREAS** Commander Kohls knew the value of education, and complemented his experience with a Master of Science Degree in Security Administration, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice, both from the University of Detroit Mercy. He is also a graduate of the prestigious Northwestern University Traffic Institute *School of Staff and Command*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in sincere appreciation and recognition of Commander Scott Kohls' 25 years of outstanding service and commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens. His tireless efforts and faithful public service merit our highest regards and best wishes for continued success.

We salute and congratulate you, Command Scott A. Kohls.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Erminia Ramirez
Chairperson

/s/ Mohamed Okdie
Commissioner

/s/ Jim Holley
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Willie Hampton
Commissioner

**ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 20, 2007**

/s/ Arthur Blackwell, II
Commissioner

MOTION: Comm. Holley made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: Comm. Hampton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, September 27, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquartes
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328
Detroit, MI 48226

10. **ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

R. Scott stated he was present at a sentencing of two individuals who were charged as it relates to the P-24. The tape showed that the individuals were being beating by the officer and one of them called 911. Given that the Consent Decree will be discussed this Friday, he would like this body to take a look at the video to ensure that the procedures were followed, see if they had probable cause, and whether or not the evidence was correct.

Comm. Holley stated unless it comes before this Board as a complaint, there is nothing that this Board can do.

Exec Dir. Goss stated his statement can be used as a complaint.

R. Scott stated it was an Internal Affairs complaint.

Comm. Holley stated you are here today to put it on record.

R. Scott stated yes.

Exec Dir. Goss stated it's on record.

E. Moore stated he is here on behalf of Councilman Kwame Kenyetta and if he can be of any assistance please let him know.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb